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# The Swiss Observer

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## NEWS AT RANDOM

**Federal** The Swiss Federal Railways carried 21.9 million passengers during March 1959, or 2.5 million more than in March 1958. Receipts: 31.2 million francs (March 1958: 28.7 million francs).

Goods traffic is returned as 1.81 million tons, or 26,000 tons less than in the same period in 1958. Receipts: 36.2 million francs (March 1958: 37.4 million francs).

\* \* \*

The Federal Post, Telegraph and Telephone Administration made a payment in 1958 of 70 million francs to the Federal Exchequer. This amount represents 2.5 per cent of the total receipts of the Exchequer (Bundeskasse).

\* \* \*

**Cantonal** National Councillor Josef Schweizer (Socialist), of Arth Goldau, has intimated that he will not put his candidature forward at the next Parliamentary elections. He has been a member of the National Council since 1947. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

The commune of Schübelbach (Ct. Schwyz) has bestowed honorary Citizenship upon States Councillor Dr. Fritz Staehli. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

This year's "Landsgemeinde" of the canton of Obwalden was held on the Landenberg above Sarnen. Mr. Leo von Wyl (Kaegiswil) was elected a member of the cantonal Government. The posts of "Landammann" and "Landsstatthalter" will be occupied by States Councillor Ludwig von Moos and Hans Gasser (Lungern) respectively. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

The "Landsgemeinde" of the canton of Nidwalden took place at Wil; amongst the invited guests were the President of the Swiss Confederation, M. Paul Chaudet, the members of the Government of the canton of Grisons, the Ambassadors of the U.S.A., India and Japan, army-corps commander Nager,

divisional colonel Ruenzi, and National Councillors R. Bratschi, Dr. Haeblerlin, Hans Albrecht, Franz Arnold and Dr. Weibel. Walter Vokinger (Stans) was elected a member of the cantonal Government, Remigi Blaettler (Hergiswil) was elected "Landammann", and Dr. Josef Odermatt (Buochs) "Landesstatthalter". [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

The first Swiss Horticultural Exhibition (G/59) was opened in Zurich on 25th April by M. Paul Chaudet, President of the Swiss Confederation. The exhibition will remain open until 11th October 1959.

A fire which broke out recently at the "Palais Rotonde" caused considerable damage. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

Heavy damage — thought to exceed 1 million francs — was caused by fire at the houses No. 28 to 30 Limmatquai, and 1 Laternengasse, Zurich. The workshop of the "Musikhaus Hug & Co.", and the premises of the firm Weber-Strickler, perfumiers, have suffered most of the damage. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

The Open Parliament ("Landsgemeinde") of the canton of Glarus took place at Glarus. "Landammann" Franz Landolt-Rast, before dealing with the Agenda, welcomed the official guests, amongst them Federal Councillor Dr. Th. Holenstein, army-corps commander Annasohn, Chief of the General Staff, and Colonels J. Jenny and Max Baeschlin. All the members of the cantonal Government were re-elected, and so were the two representatives in the States Council, Dr. Rudolf Stuessi and Dr. Heinrich Heer. [A.T.S.]

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The widow of the late Federal Councillor Giuseppe Motta, Madame Agostina Motta, née Andreazzi of Dongio (Ct. Ticino), has died, in Berne, at the age of 83. [A.T.S.]

## CITY SWISS CLUB

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### MONTHLY MEETING

on **Tuesday, 16th June 1959** at **6.30** for **7 p.m.**  
at **Dorchester Hotel, W.1.** (Dinner at 7 p.m.)

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Members wishing to be present should send their slip to the Manager of Dorchester Hotel, W.1, to reach him not later than Monday, 15th June 1959.

THE COMMITTEE.